

LOG NO.

**115**

**UPDATED  
INFORMATION**

Date:   /   /   1525 HRS LT. SLAWSON AGS/SHB

SHERIFF'S HOMICIDE DETECTIVES ARE CONTINUING THEIR INVESTIGATION INTO THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING A DEPUTY-INVOLVED SHOOTING WHICH OCCURRED IN THE 21900 BLOCK OF DEVLIN AVENUE, HAWAIIAN GARDENS.

DETECTIVES HAVE LEARNED THAT DEPUTIES FROM LAKEWOOD STATION WERE PATROLLING THE AREA WHEN THEY HEARD GUNFIRE NEARBY. DEPUTIES WERE SEARCHING THE AREA TO FIND THE SOURCE OF THE GUN SHOTS, WHEN THEY RECEIVED A CALL OF A BURGLARY IN PROGRESS. THE CALL WAS THEN UPDATED TO A SHOTS FIRED. AT THAT TIME, DEPUTIES RESPONDED TO THE 21900 BLOCK OF DEVLIN AVENUE, HAWAIIAN GARDENS.

AS THE DEPUTIES APPROACHED THE RESIDENCE, THE SUSPECT, JOSEPH MERCADO, MH/26, WHO WAS ARMED WITH AN ASSAULT RIFLE, EXITED THE LOCATION. THE DEPUTIES ORDERED MERCADO TO DROP THE WEAPON, HE REFUSED AND INSTEAD TURNED TOWARD THE DEPUTIES. AT THIS TIME A DEPUTY INVOLVED-SHOOTING OCCURRED.

ONE OF THE DEPUTIES FIRED TWO ROUNDS AT MERCADO, STRIKING HIM ONCE IN THE UPPER BODY.

BY: DEP. AURA SIERRA

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ONCE MERCADO WAS IN CUSTODY, THE DEPUTIES ENTERED THE RESIDENCE TO SEARCH FOR POSSIBLE VICTIMS. AS THEY CLEARED THE LOCATION, THEY DISCOVERED FOUR INJURED PEOPLE, TWO MEN AND TWO WOMEN, WHO WERE SUFFERING FROM GUNSHOT WOUNDS.

SERENA TARIN, 25-YEARS-OLD, AND HER BROTHER ALFREDO TARIN, JR., 20 YEARS OLD, WERE PRONOUNCED DEAD AT THE SCENE BY LOS ANGELES COUNTY PARAMEDICS. THEIR PARENTS, LUCIANA AND ALFREDO TARIN, SR., WERE BOTH CRITICALLY INJURED AND TRANSPORTED TO A LOCAL HOSPITAL. LUCIANA IS LISTED IN CRITICAL CONDITION. ALFREDO LATER DIED AS A RESULT OF HIS INJURIES.

SIX OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS, WHO WERE HOME DURING THE SHOOTING, WERE ABLE TO ESCAPE WITHOUT INJURY.

A CAN OF GASOLINE WAS FOUND AT THE SCENE. GASOLINE HAS BEEN POURED ON THE SIDE OF THE HOUSE, AND THE HOUSE WAS PARTIALLY BURNED.

MERCADO, A RESIDENT OF MONTEBELLO, WAS ALSO TRANSPORTED TO A LOCAL HOSPITAL WHERE HE WAS TREATED FOR A MINOR GUNSHOT WOUND AND RELEASED. MERCADO WAS BOOKED AT LAKEWOOD SHERIFF'S STATION FOR MURDER AND ATTEMPTED MURDER. HE IS BEING HELD WITHOUT BAIL.

"IF NOT FOR THE HEROIC ACTIONS OF SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES, THIS TRAGEDY WOULD LIKELY HAVE BEEN MUCH WORSE", SAID UNDERSHERIFF LARRY WALDIE.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DEP. AURA SIERRA

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